COMMUNITY

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Maria Guadiana -
The Unassuming Activist

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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SPORTS

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DCFC
Undefeated !!!

¡Que Viva La Fiesta del 5 de mayo! El suroeste de Detroit disfrutará de su desfile número 59

Por Juanita Zúñiga

Casi todos los años, el suroeste de Detroit celebra el Cinco de Mayo con un desfile anual que recorre W. Vernor Hwy, su calle principal. Mientras los asistentes al desfile se alinean a lo largo de la ruta, suena la música de banda y los bailarines del ballet folclórico hacen girar sus vestidos tradicionales representando a Jalisco, Oaxaca y Guerrero.

El desfile es una hermosa tradición del suroeste de Detroit que comenzó hace 59 años por el Comité Patriótico Mexicano.

Es común ver a abuelos, padres e hijos disfrutando juntos de la fiesta. Ángeles Cuevas, residente de la colonia Springwells, nos comentó que ella y su familia han asistido al desfile desde que tiene uso de razón.

"Siempre ha sido como una tradición familiar. Unos 15 de mis primos y yo nos reuníamos para ver a los Lowriders. Todos tiraban dulces y los niños nos peleábamos por atraparlos. Siempre hubo una buena vibra", dijo Cuevas. "Buena comida y compañía. Fue la época más sencilla, cuando no sabías que eran los años más sencillos. Me encanta el desfile del Cinco de Mayo".

Continúa en la pág.2

Viva La Fiesta! Southwest Detroit celebrates 59 years of the Cinco de Mayo Parade

By Juanita Zuniga

Almost every year, Southwest Detroit celebrates Cinco de Mayo with an annual parade that makes its way down W. Vernor Hwy, the main thoroughfare in Southwest Detroit. While parade-goers line up and down the parade route, banda music blares, and ballet folklorico dancers twirl traditional dresses representing Jalisco, Oaxaca, and Guerrero.

The parade is a beloved Southwest Detroit Tradition that started 59 years ago by the Mexican Patriotic Committee.

It's common to see grandparents, parents and children enjoying the festivities together. Angeles Cuevas, a resident of the Springwells neighborhood, said she and her family have been attending the parade for as long as she can remember.

"It's always been like a family tradition. About 15 of my primos and I would get together to see the Lowriders. Everybody was throwing candy, and all the kids were fighting for the candy. It was just always a vibe," Cuevas said. "Good food, good company. It was like the simpler times when you didn't know they were the simpler times. I love the Cinco de Mayo parade."

Cont. on pg.2

Photo from 2023 Cinco de Mayo parade. Photo by Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval

My Reflections on Disability Policy Seminar 2024

By Jacqueline Cuevas

Every year, the Disability Policy Seminar (DPS) gathers the nation's leading disability advocate organization professionals and people with lived experience, in Washington D.C. The goal is to encourage unity and present in front of Congress, the high - priority concerns of people with Intellectual or Developmental Disability (IDD) and their supporting communities.

This year's annual federal legislative conference was held at the Westin Hotel in downtown Washington DC in early April. The DPS partners with non-profit organizations across the United States of America like The Arc, Autism Society, American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, United Cerebral Palsy, Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered, TASH and state LEND programs across the USA and more.

My position as Public Relations Chairperson of Self Advocates of Michigan and a MI-LEND trainee allowed me the opportunity to attend this year's conference. Being four years into my self-advocacy journey, this is the first time I have travelled outside of Michigan to learn more about the current laws and policies affecting the way people with disabilities live in the United States. Having had my first seizure at the age of 16 and being undiagnosed until I was 25 years, I lived for almost a decade without the required written diagnosis that would allow me to have accommodations that could increase my quality of life.

While living in denial of my body's physical and psychological limitations, I had not realized that there were people in our society that value the firsthand experience of people with disabilities and put in tremendous efforts to ensure that they have access to quality housing, education, voting and legal rights, health insurance, transportation, employment opportunities and countless more topics that constitute basic human rights.

For this trip my highest priority was The Autism CARES act, whose funding needs to be reauthorized by September 30, 2024. The Autism CARES act is the most comprehensive federal law addressing the needs of all individuals with autism and other neurodevelopmental disabilities. This law funds programs such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Learn the Signs, Act Early program and all 60 LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities) programs. Being neurodivergent and diagnosed as an adult, I value the importance of empowering our communities to learn the early signs of IID and equip them with tools necessary to improve the quality of life across the lifespan of the individual. Learn the Signs Act Early, provides parents, caregivers, healthcare providers and early childhood educators with materials and resources to track the developmental milestones of children 2 months to 5 years old.

Cont. on pg.6

The visiting delegation from the Disability Policy Seminar included, from left to right: Jacqueline Cuevas, Jason Reeves, Rep. Rashida Talib, Eliot Carter and Jessica Tan

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Viva La Fiesta! SW Detroit celebrates 59th Cinco de Mayo Parade

Con't from pg. 1

Alma Cruz is the new President of the Mexican Patriotic Committee. She's revamping a parade that had lost its luster in recent years. There will be no on-site registration; everything must be done in advance, allowing floats, horses, cars and takuache trucks to easily join the procession.

This year's theme is La Historia de Detroit. "We want to tie that into the parade, not only because we want to talk about all the different ethnicities that make up Southwest Detroit," Cruz said, "but because it represents the resilience of the people and how families got here. We want to continue to celebrate that and tell that story."

Lisa Gonzalez is the secretary of the Mexican Patriotic Committee. She says she's been passionate about the parade since she was a little girl.

"My parents experienced it with my tia, my tio; it's a tradition. I'm excited to plan it and for the community to be involved," Gonzalez said.

The Cinco de Mayo Parade started out as a small neighborhood-centered event to build community and is now one of the city's most talked-about traditions.

Cruz wants to ensure that the parade is safe, fun, and memorable for all its spectators.

In 2014, shots were fired during the parade, causing panic. That year, the festival was immediately canceled. The somber tone of guns fired at a family event shocked the Mexican Patriotic Committee who never wanted to see that happen again. Juan Carrion, the Mexican Patriotic Committee Cinco de Mayo Parade chair, says an important part of the parade is being prepared for anything and ensuring everyone's safety.

"We came up with an evacuation plan to put in place if something like that was to ever happen, we now know what measures to take," Carrion said.

Another safety precaution MPC took was to deepen its relationship with the Detroit Police Department.

"At first, it wasn't easy, they needed to understand us, and now they do. As of today, we're like a family and have built a great relationship to keep everyone safe," Carrion said.

A popular misconception is that Cinco de Mayo is Mexican Independence Day, which is false. Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Battle of Puebla in 1862, where Benito Juarez, Mexico's first Indigenous president, and General Ignacio Zaragoza, led an army of men to defend the land of Puebla against France. Though outnumbered and poorly supplied, Zaragoza and his men stood their ground to defend La Patria.

Today, the celebration serves as a way for Mexican immigrants to celebrate their heritage and honor the Mexican community, which has been in Detroit for 125 years.

The Cinco de Mayo Parade is on Sunday, May 5th starting at 12 noon. This year, it will be accompanied by a two-day Cinco de Mayo Fiesta on 21st Street and Bagley St from noon until 8 pm each day. For more information, visit https://www.mpcdetroit.org/

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Juanita Zuniga is a graduate of Kalamazoo College with degrees in Anthropology, Sociology, and English. She was born and raised in SW Detroit and still resides there today. She is passionate about her community and hopes to serve it through writing. In her spare time, Juanita is a Latin history and music enthusiast. She is also a Cancer Sun, Libra Moon, and Cancer Rising.

This story was made possible by the Race and Justice Reporting Initiative, which aims to build trust between the news media and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities and strengthen representative democracy.

¡Viva La Fiesta! SW Detroit celebra el 59º Desfile del Cinco de Mayo

Con't de pg. 1

Alma Cruz es la nueva Presidenta del Comité Patriótico Mexicano. Está renovando un desfile que había perdido su brillo en los últimos años. No habrá registro en el sitio; todo debe hacerse con antelación, permitiendo que carrozas, caballos, carros y camiones takuache se sumen fácilmente al desfile.

El tema de este año es La Historia de Detroit, que vamos a incorporarla en el desfile, no solamente para hablar de las diferentes etnias que conforman el suroeste de Detroit, sino porque representa la resiliencia de la gente y cómo llegaron esas familias hasta aquí. Queremos seguir celebrándolo y contándolo". Compartió la Presidenta.

Lisa González es la secretaria del Comité Patriótico Mexicano. Ella comenta que le apasiona el desfile desde que era niña.

"Mis padres lo vivieron con mi tía, mi tío; es una tradición. Estoy emocionada de planificarlo y de que la comunidad participe", dijo González.

El Desfile del Cinco de Mayo comenzó como un pequeño evento centrado en el vecindario para construir comunidad y ahora es una de las tradiciones más comentadas de la ciudad.

Cruz quiere asegurarse de que el desfile sea seguro, divertido y memorable para todos sus espectadores.

En 2014, hubo disparos durante el desfile, provocando pánico y cancelando el festival inmediatamente; el tono sombrío de ese suceso en un evento familiar, conmocionó al Comité Patriótico Mexicano que no quería que eso volviera a suceder. Juan Carrión, presidente del Desfile del Cinco de Mayo del Comité, dijo que una parte importante del desfile es estar preparado y garantizar la seguridad de todos.

"Tenemos un plan de evacuación por si algo así sucediera alguna vez y ahora estamos conscientes de qué medidas tomar", dijo Carrión.

Otra disposición que incorporó el MPC fue profundizar su relación con el Departamento de Policía de Detroit.

"Al principio no fue fácil, necesitaban entendernos y ahora lo hacen. Somos como una familia y hemos construido una gran relación para que todos estemos seguros", dijo Carrión.

Una idea errónea popular, es que el Cinco de Mayo es el Día de la Independencia de México, lo cual es falso. El Cinco de Mayo conmemora la Batalla de Puebla en 1862, donde Benito Juárez, el primer presidente indígena de México, y el general Ignacio Zaragoza, lideraron un ejército para defender la tierra de Puebla contra Francia; aunque superados en número y mal abastecidos, Zaragoza y sus hombres se mantuvieron firmes para defender su patria.

Actualmente, la celebración es una forma en la que los inmigrantes mexicanos recuerdan su herencia y honran a la comunidad mexicana, que ha estado en Detroit durante 125 años.

El Desfile del Cinco de Mayo será el domingo 5 de mayo a partir de las 12 del mediodía. Se llevará a cabo una Fiesta de dos días en 21st Street y Bagley St desde el mediodía hasta las 8 pm. Para obtener más información, visite https://www.mpcdetroit.org/

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Juanita Zúñiga se graduó de la Universidad de Kalamazoo con títulos en Antropología, Sociología e Inglés. Nació y creció en el suroeste de Detroit, donde todavía reside. Le apasiona su comunidad y espera servirla a través de la escritura. En su tiempo libre, Juanita es una entusiasta de la historia y la música latina. Ella también es Sol de Cáncer, Luna de Libra y Cáncer Ascendente.

Esta historia fue posible gracias a la Iniciativa de Informes sobre Raza y Justicia, cuyo objetivo es generar confianza entre los medios de comunicación y las comunidades negras, indígenas y de color y fortalecer la democracia representativa.

Community gathers for the 2023 Cinco de Mayo parade. Photo by Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval

Grand Marshall Honorees Mauro Cruz (left), Ms. Silverado Dulcemaria Rios Tapia (in green dress) seated on her throne, along with her court, during the 2023 Cinco de Mayo Parade. Photo by Adam J. Dewey

2023 Cinco de Mayo parade. Photo by Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval

Lowriders during the 2023 Cinco de Mayo parade. Photo by Adam J. Dewey

Maria Guadiana - The Unassuming Activist

By: Ozzie Rivera

I met Maria Guadiana right around the time I entered my freshman year at Wayne State University. I was enrolled in the first-class cohort in Latino En Marcha, which later changed its name to the Center for Chicano and Boricua Studies, and is now known as the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies. Maria, along with Ricardo Guzman and Native American activist Thurman Bear, would play a huge role in Latino En Marcha and had an immediate impact on their fellow students. But it wasn't till decades later that I would start to realize the full extent of how instrumental she was to a number of organizations and institutions during the early years of the Detroit Chicano (Mexican American)/Latino movement of the late 60's through the 70's. Few are aware of the critical behind the scenes role she played in the early years of the Latino civil rights movement in Detroit.

Some of you may already recognize her name from a few articles I wrote for EL CENTRAL. I often go to her when writing articles about our community's history, as she is quite the historian. She shared her father Jose Guadiana's story as the first president of El Comite Patriotico Mexicano. She also introduced me to her brother Ray Guadiana, a fantastic visual artist and muralist, whose 3-sided wall mural graced the inside of the former G.I. Forum Hall on Lafayette and Waterman for decades. Ray also was one of the original members of the late 50's Doo Wop renowned Mexican American and African American group the Latin Counts, a number whom went on to storied recording careers. Finally, she was a key source for the series I wrote on the formation of Latino En Marcha (Center for Latino/a Studies) at Wayne State.

As I reviewed my notes for this article, I realized quickly I could not do justice in telling her story in such a short article as her experiences were far and wide. What follows is but a part of that story.

Maria was born and raised in Detroit as the youngest of five and was the only girl in her family. She would often accompany her father on his daily chores which included responsibilities associated with being the first president of El Comite. He played a big influence on her which definitely impacted how she started to "see the world". She remembers picking green beans in Memphis, Michigan in order to supplement family income when she was about eight or nine. This would impact the development of a "consciousness" that would later resonate with the organizing efforts of the United Farmworkers. In the late 60's and early 70's she would become an organizer with them.

A Detroit Public Schools student, she went to Preston, Riverside, Webster and eventually Western High School. At Western she was active in school theatrical productions, as a cheerleader, member of the drama and Spanish clubs and participated in the annual Western High Cowboy Capers variety show.

She remembers the impact seeing Robert "Bobby" Kennedy" had on her in 1968 when he visited Detroit while running for President. Robert Kennedy would be assassinated later that year. Not much later, she would become involved in the Eugene McCarthy presidential campaign. This would spark her interest in direct action. It was not long after Tom Gonzalez, then an organizer for the West Central Organization (WCO), came to her house one Saturday while as part of WCO's regular neighborhood canvassing efforts and talked to her about the United Farmworkers. He would invite her to learn more. She picked up on that invitation which led to her involvement with the United Farmworkers. She recollects that Lupe Andiano, a nun who had moved here from Los Angeles, CA, was the head organizer for the local Farmworkers Office, which at that time was housed in a building on the corner of 17th, and Howard.

Detroit would become a major center of the national Grape Boycott which effectively brought attention to the plight of the farmworkers and their organizing efforts. A major target of the Detroit boycott was the picketing of the A&P grocery store on W. Vernor. At that time A&P was one of the country's largest grocery store chains.

This work led her to meet a number of notable activists such as the recently deceased peace activist Catholic Bishop Thomas Gumbleton and others from the UAW and AFL-CIO. As time progressed Maria would become more socially conscious and immersed herself in progressive politics. This started with her introduction to several of her United Farmworkers colleagues such as Bill Johnston and Ken Firestone who had been members of Students for a Democratic Society. Then Lupe Andiano, the Detroit Farmworkers director, encouraged Maria to attend the 1969 National Brown Berets Convention. As a result of this experience and connections established at the convention she came back to Detroit as the lead organizer for their office in Detroit. She remembers other members of the Brown Berets included Jose Rendon, Leonard Solano, Rolando Garcia, Ricardo Guzman and Art Sanchez, among others.

In the late 60's and early 70's the community agency LA SED and a number of Latino activists such as Gus Garnett, Israel Layton, Liz Salas, Gumencindo Salas among others who were members of the Committee of Concerned Spanish Speaking Citizens ramped up their educational advocacy work. Maria was hired as secretary for LA SED and in that role handled a lot of the administrative support work for the groups' organizing efforts and advocacy, which led to the successful establishment, in collaboration with New Detroit and Wayne State University, of the leadership development and educational program Latino En Marcha in 1971. As noted earlier, fifty-three years later the program still exists as Wayne State's Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies.

Her work "went national" at times such as when she worked with Tony Munoz a professor at Fresno State with El Colegio de la Tierra in late 1970 or in her second year of graduate studies with Carlos Arce, another former founding faculty for Latino En Marcha. Maria assisted Arce on his national research with La Red. She traveled most notably to Oklahoma and throughout the southwest training project interviewers.

In 1981 she married Larry Chakur, a reporter for the Garnett News Service. They would later move to Danville, IL, because Larry was transferred there. In the Danville area she worked in a number of hospital and nursery home settings. After five years Larry would be transferred again to Battle Creek where Maria, in a span of 27 years, worked in a number of Adult Day Care, nursing home, senior citizens, hospitals, youth and school settings. When she moved back to Detroit, she landed at Cesar Chavez High School as a social worker. In just shy of two years, she retired in 2015.

Throughout this article I have yet to truly delve into the fact Maria is a licensed social worker. She found time during her activism to study for and secure her Master's in Social Work from Wayne State in 1978. She credits two individuals early on in her childhood with encouraging her to consider a helping profession. Around the age of 12, Kathy Lopez, a social worker who lived nearby, would regularly take neighborhood children to Clark Park. Another individual Sister Sandy, a teacher at Ste Anne's who would later on become a social worker, told Maria she should become a social worker when she grew up. She noted Maria liked helping others.

At heart, Maria believes she is an organizer and is proud of her continued community involvement with Messiah Church, which is located on the corner of W. Grand Blvd and Toledo. She noted New City Kids operates out of the facility and local youth to work with younger kids. As she spoke about their efforts you could see that glisten in her eyes! That told me all about her continued joy in and commitment to social activism which will not stop anytime soon.

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Ozzie Rivera, a retired social worker, is a cultural activist and musician who currently teaches on Afro Latino History and Culture at Wayne State University and social work at the University of Michigan.

Maria Guadiana-latter teen years

Maria Guadiana

Special World's Cultures

The Guarani from South America

Guarani Myth About The Origin Of Language

The true Father Ñamandú, the First, from a small portion of his own divinity, from the wisdom contained in his own divinity, and by virtue of his creative wisdom, caused flames and thin mist to be engendered.

Having arisen (assumed human form), from the wisdom contained in his own divinity, and by virtue of his creative wisdom, he conceived the origin of human language. Our Father created the foundation of human language and made it part of His own divinity.

Before the earth existed, in the midst of the primeval darkness, before there was knowledge of things, he created what would be the foundation of human language (or the foundation of future human language) and made Ñamandú that would form part of his own divinity true First Father.

Having conceived the origin of the future human language, of the wisdom contained in his own divinity, and in virtue of his creative wisdom he conceived the foundation of love (to the neighbour).

Before the earth existed, in the midst of the primeval darkness, before he had knowledge of things, and by virtue of his creative wisdom he conceived the origin of love of neighbor.

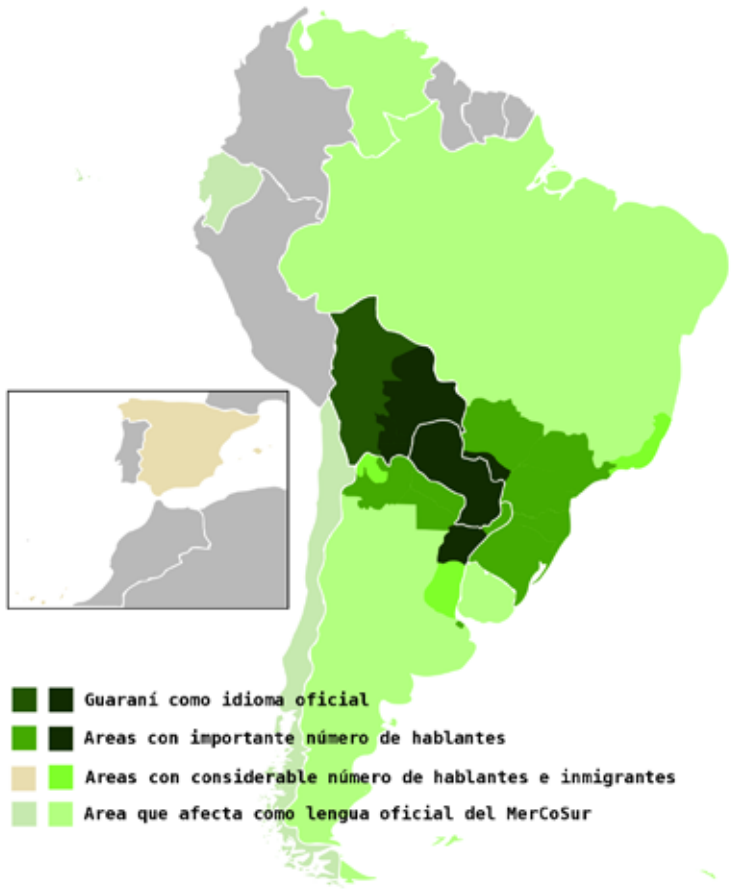
Having created the foundation of human language, having created a small portion of love, of the wisdom contained in its own divinity, and by virtue of its creative wisdom, the origin of a single sacred hymn was created in its solitude.

Before the earth existed amid the originary darkness, before things were known, the origin of a sacred hymn created it in its solitude and for itself.

Having created, in his solitude, the foundation of human language; having created, in his solitude, a small portion of love; having composed, in his solitude, a short sacred hymn, he reflected deeply on whom to make partaker

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

Guarani People


Guaraní como idioma oficial
Areas con importante número de hablantes
Areas con considerable número de hablantes e inmigrantes
Area que afecta como lengua oficial del MerCoSur

The Ava (pronounced 'avá', meaning man), better known as the Guarani, are a people who inhabit the region of the Amazon River to the Rio de la Plata. They have their own language of the same name, Guaraní. They are currently a multinational community inhabiting Paraguay, Bolivia, Argentina and Brazil.

However, they are mostly recognized by the government of Paraguay, where their population is larger and even the national currency is named the Guaraní, which has as a symbol the ₲ or Gs.

GUARANI ALPHABET

A a Ã ã Ch ch E e Ẽ ẽ G g G̃ g̃ H h I i

Ĩ ĩ J j K k L l M m Mb mb N n Nd nd Ng ng

Nt nt Ñ ñ O o Õ õ P p R r Rr rr S s T t

U u Ũ ũ V v Y y Ỹ ỹ '

The flag of the Guarani nation recognized by Bolivia is constituted by three horizontal stripes of the same size representing the land, the jungle and the river. At the center is a Greek rhombus symbolizing the four cardinal points, the eye of god. This rhombus is crossed by a bow and its arrow for being this the most important activity of the village.

Continuation --->
Guarani myth about the origin of language

of the foundation of human language; about whom to share in the little love (of the neighbour) about whom to share in the series of words which composed the sacred hymn.

Having reflected deeply, of the wisdom contained in his own divinity, and by virtue of his creative wisdom he created those who would be companions of his divinity.

Having reflected deeply, of the wisdom contained in his own divinity, and by virtue of his creative wisdom he created the Great-hearted Ñamandú. He created it simultaneously with the reflection of his wisdom (the sun).

Before the earth existed, in the midst of the originary darkness, he created the great-hearted Ñamadú. For father of his future numerous children, for true father of the souls of his future numerous children he created the Ñamandu of great heart.

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Los Guaraníes de Suramérica

Mito Guaraní sobre el origen del lenguaje

El verdadero Padre Ñamandú, el Primero, de una pequeña porción de su propia divinidad, de la sabiduría contenida en su propia divinidad, y en virtud de su sabiduría creadora, hizo que se engendrasen llamas y tenue neblina.

Habiéndose erguido (asumido la forma humana), de la sabiduría contenida en su propia

divinidad, y en virtud de su sabiduría creadora, concibió el origen del lenguaje humano. Creó nuestro Padre el fundamento del lenguaje humano e hizo que formara parte de su propia divinidad.

Antes de existir la tierra, en medio de las tinieblas primigenias, antes de tenerse conocimiento de las cosas, creó aquello que sería el fundamento del lenguaje humano (o el fundamento del futuro lenguaje humano) e hizo Ñamandú que formara parte de su propia divinidad de verdadero Primer Padre.

Habiendo concebido el origen del futuro lenguaje humano, de la sabiduría contenida en su propia divinidad, y en virtud de su sabiduría creadora concibió el fundamento del amor (al prójimo).

Antes de existir la tierra, en medio de las tinieblas primigenias, antes de tenerse conocimiento de las cosas, y en virtud de su sabiduría creadora concibió el origen del amor al prójimo.

Habiendo creado el fundamento del lenguaje humano, habiendo creado una pequeña porción del amor, de la sabiduría contenida en su propia divinidad, y en virtud de su sabiduría creadora, el origen de un solo himno sagrado creó en su soledad.

Antes de existir la tierra en medio de las tinieblas originarias, antes de conocerse las cosas, el origen de un himno sagrado lo creó en su soledad y para sí mismo.

Habiendo creado, en su soledad, el fundamento del lenguaje humano; habiendo creado, en su soledad, una pequeña porción de amor; habiendo creado, en su soledad, un corto himno sagrado, reflexionó profundamente sobre a quién hacer partícipe del fundamento del lenguaje humano; sobre a quién hacer partícipe del pequeño amor (al prójimo) sobre a quién hacer partícipe de las series de palabras que componían el himno sagrado.

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
EL CENTRAL
Hispanic News

Pueblo Guaraní

Los ava (pronunciado 'avá', que significa hombre), más conocidos como guaraníes, son un pueblo que habita la región del Río Amazonas hasta el Río de la Plata. Cuentan con su propio idioma del mismo nombre, Guaraní. Actualmente son una comunidad multinacional que habita en Paraguay, Bolivia, Argentina y Brasil.

Sin embargo, son mayormente reconocidos por el gobierno de Paraguay, donde su población es mayor e incluso la moneda nacional tiene de nombre el Guaraní, que tiene de símbolo la ₲ ó Gs.

La bandera de la nación Guaraní reconocida por Bolivia está constituida por tres franjas horizontales del mismo tamaño que representan la tierra, la selva y el río. Al centro se encuentra un rombo grecado que simboliza los cuatro puntos cardinales, el ojo de dios. Este rombo es cruzado por un arco y su flecha por ser éste la actividad más importante del pueblo.

Continuación -->

Mito Guaraní sobre el origen del lenguaje

Habiendo reflexionado profundamente, de la sabiduría contenida en su propia divinidad, y en virtud de su sabiduría creadora creó a quienes serían compañeros de su divinidad.

Habiendo reflexionado profundamente, de la sabiduría contenida en su propia divinidad, y en virtud de su sabiduría creadora creó al Ñamandú de corazón grande. Lo creó simultáneamente con el reflejo de su sabiduría (el sol).

Antes de existir la tierra, en medio de las tinieblas originarias, creó al Ñamadú de corazón grande. Para padre de sus futuros numerosos hijos, para verdadero padre de las almas de sus futuros numerosos hijos creó al Ñamandu de corazón grande.

My Reflections on Disability Policy Seminar 2024

Con't from pg. 1

They provide a step-by-step guide on what to do if you have concerns about your child's development. All resources are also available in Spanish.

As a MI-LEND training program fellow, I have been provided, a two-semester interdisciplinary training with the goal of improving the health of infants, children and adolescents with or at risk for neurodevelopmental disabilities. This was the first professional cohort model where I was told that my lived experience counted as a discipline and was just as valuable as the disciplines of my fellow PhD and med school student trainees. This is something that all people with disabilities should be told and believe. Disabilities exist in all cultures, religions and income levels across the planet. Disability is not a bad word!

The conference was organized as a mix of general sessions, state caucus meetings and breakout session workshops. We prepared for Wednesday's Hill Day visit with workshops, including Addressing the Direct Care Workforce Crisis, Advancing Disability Protection in the Criminal Legal System, How to Defund and Advocate for Federal Funding for People with Disabilities and Telling Effective Stories with RespectAbility.

In alignment with the seminar's mission of providing inclusivity, there was a quiet room available for all attendees who needed to disconnect from the overstimulation of their senses. I made it a point to stop for literature and conversations at all the information tables. The Autism Society distributed sensory kits and recorded video interviews with people with lived experience. I took this opportunity to do my interview in English and Spanish. We need more representation of the Latinx and Spanish speaking disabled population.

Appointments were made for over 300 attendees to meet with their Congressional Representatives to speak to them directly and/or their staff and drop off information packets. A group of five of us, in and around the 12th District, were scheduled to meet with Representative Rashida Talib. Having seen her in public spaces in Southwest Detroit, I was thrilled to meet her in her office in Washington D.C. Her staff was very welcoming and engaged us in conversation while we waited to see her. After being welcomed into her office she gave us a little over 40 minutes of her time, attentively listening to our concerns, taking notes, and engaging in impactful conversation about the importance of our visit and advocacy work. She took the time to take pictures with us and thanked us for our visit. Afterwards, our small self-guided tour of the Capital cemented in the importance of the Advocacy work on this bi-partisan issue we set out to accomplish. This trip proved to be very empowering and further motivates me to keep advocating and bringing what I learn back to my community.

Jacqueline Cuevas outside the U.S. Capitol

Jacqueline Cuevas attended her first conference outside Michigan to learn about current laws and policies affecting people with disabilities in the U.S.

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS

Michigan's #1 oldest, largest and only bi-lingual Hispanic news. Minority (Hispanic) and woman owned • Multi-year winner of Jose Marti National Award for excellence in Editorial and Design. Published in Metro Detroit since 1988.

EL CENTRAL informs and celebrates Metro Detroit's Hispanic and Latino community and Southwest Detroit in particular and supports the professional development of local reporters and photographers who seek to enter the journalism profession.

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EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS

Voodoo House Brings Punk Rock to Southwest Detroit

By Andrea Meza

Within the residential streets of the Springwells neighborhood, a seemingly ordinary house hosts live punk rock shows. The home known as the Voodoo House is a place where groups of teens and young adults who identify as misfits come together at night to feel united by music.

In the basement of Voodoo House, the flags of Che Guevara, the National Bolshevik Party, and a rainbow Detroit "D" flag hang on the walls. The space hosts bands like Jail and Mechanophilia and more well known bands such as World Peace, The HIRS Collective, and Cloud Rat.

Lexi Drysdale, the proprietor of Voodoo House, is 25, has bright red hair, wears lots of eyeliner, and sports a distressed black leather jacket. She juggles many roles, including that of lead vocalist of the hardcore punk band Cemetery Girl and Voodoo House talent booker.

In 2021, Drysdale turned her Southwest Detroit home into a venue just as Michigan emerged from its COVID-19 slumber. Before the pandemic, she held small parties with friends who would perform. But after more than a year of being indoors and almost three years of a global health crisis, Drysdale wanted to play music and be around people more than ever.

"After that [COVID], I decided that I wanted to book shows super regularly, be it in our basement or just at some of the different venues around the city," Drysdale said. The shows at the house became a regular event. Every month, there would be a couple of line-ups posted online for people to come and see."

Drysdale says she had always felt like a misfit compared to her Downriver peers. In high school, she didn't identify with mainstream media or mainstream ideology, so she began seeking other outlets that accepted her.

"I definitely processed things differently than the other kids, especially the boys. I don't think it's a coincidence that it was around this time I started wishing I wasn't a "boy," said Drysdale, who identifies as a trans woman.

Her search for validation led her to Trumbullplex, a BIPOC led housing collective and show space in the Woodbridge Neighborhood that hosts a variety of music and art shows.

"It was really the first time I met a group of people who had similar values, similar music, taste, and fashion taste to me. And it's one of the first places I feel like I actually fit in," Drysdale said.

Hanging out at the Trumbullplex inspired Drysdale to venture into other alternative spaces, such as Crow Manor and the old Sanctuary, where she could hear punk music and be part of a community.

While Detroit has been mostly known for Motown and Techno, punk rock and hardcore have been just as influential.

In the 1970s, Detroit's punk, new wave, and underground rock scene established itself in places like Bookies Club 870 in Highland Park, a gay bar legendary for hosting artists such as The Misfits, Joan Jett & The Blackhearts, and The Police. At a time when many white suburbanites wouldn't dare step foot in Detroit, suburban teens who didn't identify with the culture of a nuclear family found refuge there.

Those too young to get into the bar crowded outside Bookies to hear the music. Many of those same teens would later come together through their counterculture ideals and open Freezer Theatre, a DIY club in a vacant building in Cass Corridor. Bands like Negative Approach and Bored Youth were part of the birth of Freezer Theatre, fueling the Midwest hardcore scene.

"The Detroit hardcore scene was kind of the sum total of everybody's effort and participation," said Otto Buj, producer of the film, Dope, Hookers, and Pavement: The Real and Imagined History of Detroit Hardcore.

Buj says ambitious, clever, curious kids, in addition to being misfits and outsiders in the regular world, contribute to physically building up the punk community.

While some may think the punk scene is a thing of the past, Buj says, "This is part of a long tradition, some people stick around, some get washed away by adulthood, but then a new generation of kids comes up."

As a member of the queer community, Drysdale says her community is watching the rapid growth of the far right-wing movements that embrace homophobia, transphobia, and white supremacy.

"People are pissed and need an outlet. People need something to do. Drysdale said.

Voodoo House is supported by its queer and BIPOC community directly via donations that pay the performers and sometimes even have some left over for the house.

"It's pretty cool to see a bunch of like-minded people who like a lot of the same music take care of itself that way," Drysdale said.

Drysdale enjoys collaborating with the alternative music community and opening the space to new bands and performers. She says creating a line-up for shows is part of the fun and puts lots of thought into having different or similar bands play together in one night. Most recently, Voodoo House has begun to host alternative drag shows.

"We try really hard to make it a space where queer people and people of color and just people who aren't represented well in the rest of society get a place to be themselves and have a voice," said Drysdale

Andrea Meza works for United Community Housing Coalition and graduated from Wayne State University in broadcast journalism. Her main passion is informing and supporting the community. Thank you to Hayden Allie for inspiring this story.

******

This story was made possible by the Race and Justice Reporting Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to build trust between the news media and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities and strengthen representative democracy.

Career Funeral is an emo/softcore ensemble of the Southeast Michigan area playing in the basement at Voodoo House. Photo by Alejandro Ugalde

Showgoers enjoying the fire in the backyard between bands. Photo by Alejandro Ugalde

Lexi Drysdale (on the right) and her partner Shane at Voodoo House. Photo by Luciana Vega

Diles que lo Viste en *EL CENTRAL*

Tell them you saw it in *EL CENTRAL*

Getting to and around the NFL Draft in Detroit: The biggest party Detroit has ever hosted!

The City of Detroit is gearing up to host the NFL Draft in Downtown Detroit this week and teams from the City of Detroit and partners across the region have been working behind the scenes for months to ensure visitors have all the information they need in advance to plan a safe, fun, and easy trip to enjoy the festivities. Mayor Mike Duggan joined city officials and transit partners from across the region to announce the carefully laid plans earlier this month.

While some of Detroit's Central Business District will be closed to vehicular traffic, making the trip downtown will be well worth it. In addition to the NFL footprint, there are fun activities planned for fans of all ages at several locations throughout the downtown and across the city. Fans should not sit on the sidelines due to concerns about transportation.

Downtown road closures began March 29th and final road closures were implemented on Wednesday, April 24th. The road closure schedule was very carefully designed by the City of Detroit and the NFL to ensure minimal disruption to those working and living Downtown. During the Draft, street parking will not be allowed in much of the Central Business District to allow for adequate space for our first responders to efficiently and effectively manage any police or medical emergencies.

The 2024 NFL Draft presented by Bud Light is comprised of the NFL Draft Experience presented by Rocket Mortgage which is FREE for the public to enjoy and the Draft Theater which will serve as the Draft's central hub where all 32 teams will announce their picks live and in-person. For access to the Draft Experience, fans are required to register for free entry by downloading the NFL OnePass app or on the web at NFL.com/DraftAccess. For those without a smartphone, registration on site via Fan Services staff is also permitted.

The three secure entry points to the 2024 NFL Draft will be located at:

- Jefferson Ave. & Randolph St.
- Jefferson Ave. & Griswold St.
- Cadillac Square & Randolph

There are multiple options for getting to and around Detroit

that meet residents and visitors where they are, including park and ride, fan shuttles, public transit and rideshare services.

Bus services

One of the most cost-effective and low-stress ways to get to and from Downtown Detroit during the 2024 NFL Draft will be the park and ride shuttles operated by SMART, QLINE, and Visit Detroit.

The City of Detroit has worked with QLINE, Wayne State University, Michigan Central and General Motors to bring easily accessible Park & Ride fan shuttles to three locations within the city.

QLINE will be offering Park & Ride services, available on a first-come, first-serve basis for $5 per vehicle from the following locations:

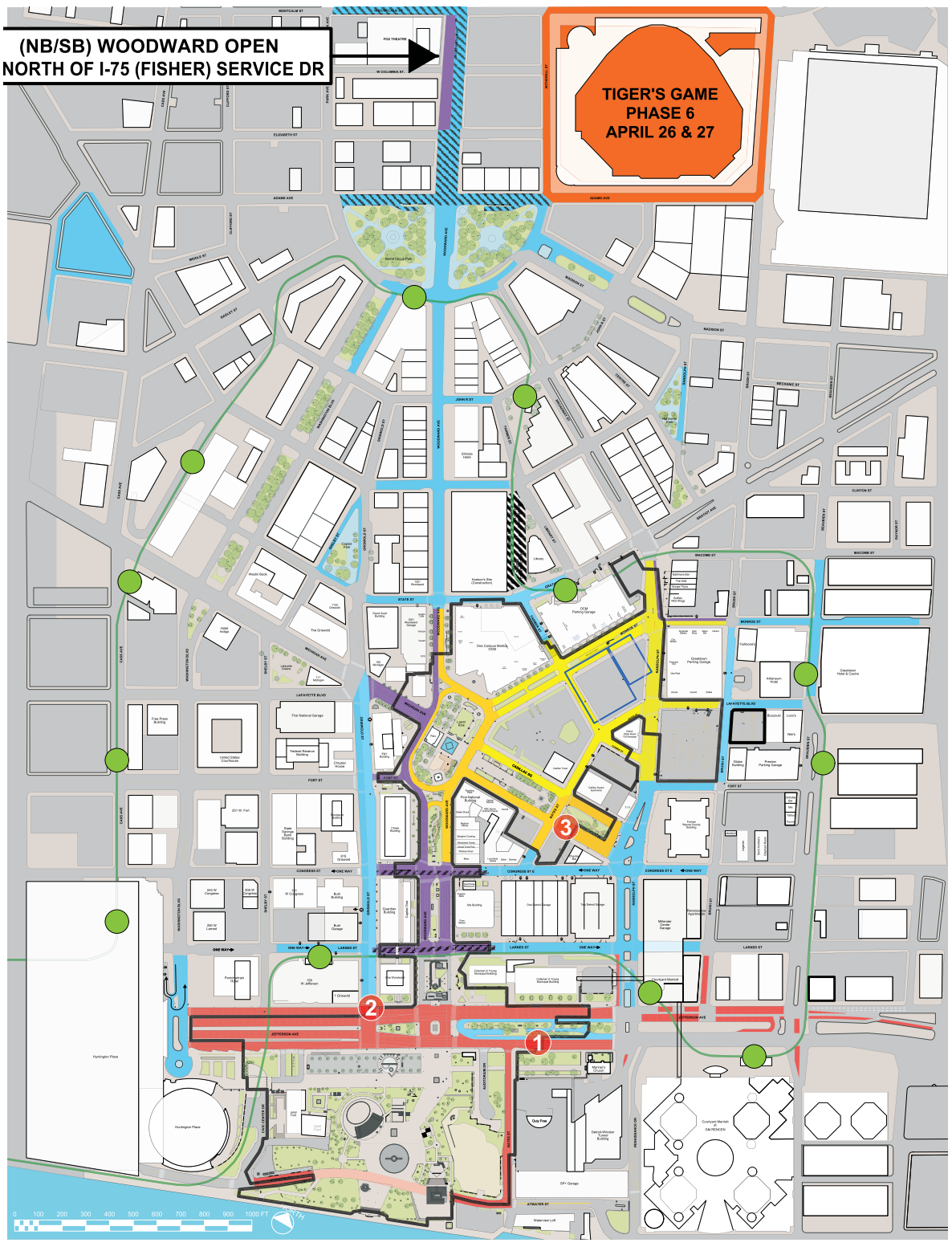
- WSU Lot 12 – Harper & Woodward - near the Amsterdam station
- New Center Garage – 116 Lothrop - near the Grand Blvd station
- Cass Garage – 6540 Cass Ave - near the Baltimore station
- John R & Piquette – 6230 John R. - near the Amsterdam station

Fan Shuttle locations:

- $10 per car - WSU Structures 1, 5, and 2 (first come, first serve) - 450 W. Palmer Ave
- $15 per car - Bagley Mobility Hub, 1501 Wabash Street (prepay recommended) https://go.lazparking.com/checkout/index-eventhtml?l=144312&wk=a24320001bf04562ae29930027456896
- $15 per car - River East Garage, 214 Rivard Street (prepay recommended) https://promo.parking.com/detroit-football-draft-parking/

SMART will also be offering Park & Ride all three days of the NFL Draft from multiple locations around Metro Detroit. "SMART recognizes the NFL Draft is a tremendous economic driver that will bring thousands of visitors to Detroit," said SMART General Manager Dwight Ferrell. "But this event isn't just for visitors. SMART is focused on the people who live right here in Oakland, Macomb, and Wayne Counties. We are all about giving you access to this exciting event. This is a fantastic opportunity for local families who haven't tried transit to get on board."

- SMART buses will depart from Park & Ride locations once an hour between 9am and 3pm on all three days.
- Thursday and Friday, buses will leave Downtown to return to Park & Ride locations once an hour between 1pm and 11:30pm.
- Saturday, buses will leave Downtown to return to Park & Ride locations once an hour between 1pm and 7:30pm.
- East side of Downtown pickup/drop off location will be the Bricktown People Mover Station
- West side of Downtown pickup/drop off location will be the Fort/Cass People Mover Station.
- One-way fares will be just $2.00 per adult, $1.00 per child ages 5-18, $.50 per adult age 65+ and the disabled. For more information on routes, check smartmovesus.org. (continues next page)



ENTRIES

Streets outside of entries to be closed to allow room for entry queues, police/security and guest services (lockers, bike parking, restrooms, drop-offs, info booths, site lighting, etc)

1. ENTRY #1 - JEFFERSON / RANDOLPH
2. ENTRY #2 - JEFFERSON / GRISWOLD
3. ENTRY #3 - CADILLAC / RANDOLPH

PEOPLE MOVER STOPS

MAR	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
APR 2024	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	**25**	**26**	**27**
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

PHASE 1

FRI - MARCH 29 @ 9 AM TO TUES - MAY 7 @ 11:59 PM

CLOSURES FOR THEATER BUILD

RANDOLPH ST BETWEEN MACOMB and FORT
FARMERS STREET
MONROE STREET
BATES STREET
CADILLAC SQUARE - WESTBOUND

MAR	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
APR 2024	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	**25**	**26**	**27**
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

PHASE 2

MON - APRIL 8 @ 9 AM TO SUN - MAY 5 @ 11:59 PM

CLOSURES FOR CAMPUS MARTIUS / CADILLAC SQUARE BUILD

MAR	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
APR 2024	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	**25**	**26**	**27**
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

PHASE 3

MON - APRIL 15 @ 12 AM TO MON - MAY 6 @ 5 AM

CLOSURES FOR HART PLAZA BUILD

JEFFERSON AVENUE & DETOURS
BATES STREET
ATWATER STREET

MAR	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
APR 2024	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	**25**	**26**	**27**
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

PHASE 4

SAT - APRIL 20 @ 6 AM TO TUES - APRIL 30 @ 11:59 PM

CLOSURES FOR WOODWARD AVENUE

WOODWARD FOR RED CARPET- OPENS FRI - APRIL 26, 2024 5 PM
WOODWARD AVENUE FROM LARNED STREET TO STATE STREET

TRANSIT LANE OPEN ON LARNED & CONGRESS (EXCEPT FROM 8 PM ON 23RD - 6AM ON 29TH)

MAR	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
APR 2024	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	**25**	**26**	**27**
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

PHASE 5

WED - APRIL 24 @ 12 AM TO SUN - APRIL 28 @ 6 AM

EVENT OPERATING HOURS CLOSURES

EXTENDED ROAD CLOSURES FOR :
RED CARPET, CITY ACTIVATIONS, PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

ROADS RE-OPEN FRI - APRIL 26, 2024 6 AM

MAR	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
APR 2024	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	**25**	**26**	**27**
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

PHASE 6

TIGERS GAMES

FRI - APRIL 26 - 10 AM TO 6PM
SAT - APRIL 27 - 3 PM TO 11 PM

ROADS AROUND TIGER'S STADIUM

PUBLIC STREET CLOSURES

NFL DRAFT 2024 DETROIT
PRELIMINARY 25Mar2024

PRESENTS

DDOT services will continue to operate as scheduled but with modified downtown routes due to road closures. Beginning at 8pm on 4/23 through 6am on 4/29, DDOT buses coming from the east side will stop at Bricktown People Mover station, and DDOT buses coming from the west side will stop at Rosa Parks Transit Center. DDOT riders should visit DDOT's website for all updated re-route information and a full map: https://detroitmi.gov/departments/detroit-department-transportation/bus-schedules.

Public Transit Options

Once visitors arrive Downtown, Detroit has two excellent – and free – modes of public transportation to help visitors get around the city.

Detroit People Mover

During the 2024 NFL Draft, Detroit's elevated rail system will operate 24 hours a day, beginning 7am Thursday, April 25th through 12am Sunday, 4/28 with trains up to every 5 minutes.

- All 13 stations will be open for convenient travel to and from the Draft activation sites, as well as restaurants, lodging, parking, and easy transfers between DDOT and the QLINE.
- Visitors using People Mover will be able to utilize Financial District & Millender Center stops right next to entry points into the Draft footprint.
- The Fort/Cass Station will be the designated location connecting accessible transportation and is the westside transfer and drop-off point for west-side DDOT and SMART buses.
- Bricktown Station is the eastside transfer and drop-off point for east-side DDOT and SMART buses.

Detroit People Mover stops and locations of NFL Draft entrances

Thanks to the generosity of Priority Waste, one of Detroit's contracted waste management companies, the Detroit People Mover is free to riders for the remainder of 2024.

QLINE

Detroit's QLINE, a free rail service traveling North and South along Woodward Avenue, will operate with short service routes, but higher frequency service during the event to accommodate anyone parking on Detroit's north end wishing to travel into the NFL Footprint.

- The QLINE will run from 8am-12am Thursday, April 25th through Saturday, April 27th.
- During the Draft, it will stop at Sproat Street by Little Caesar's Arena.
- Visitors will be able to either walk to entrance points down Woodward through the DDP-hosted Draft in the D activation or can transfer to the People Mover at Grand Circus Park.

Rideshare

The City of Detroit has been working with our rideshare operators, Uber & Lyft, to ensure they have the information they need to navigate around road closures and activations. We are working with our rideshare partners and the NFL to create designated rideshare pick-up and drop-off locations at easily accessible points throughout Downtown. Visitors are encouraged to plan ahead; many rideshare companies offer the opportunity to book a ride in advance.

Bike and Scooter Rental

Detroit's bike share system has 620 bikes and 75 stations in 6 Detroit metro cities, with options for 1-hour ride cycles (after initial payment). There are countless MoGo stations around Detroit including Capitol Park, Woodward and Fort, Larned and Woodward, and the Detroit Riverwalk.

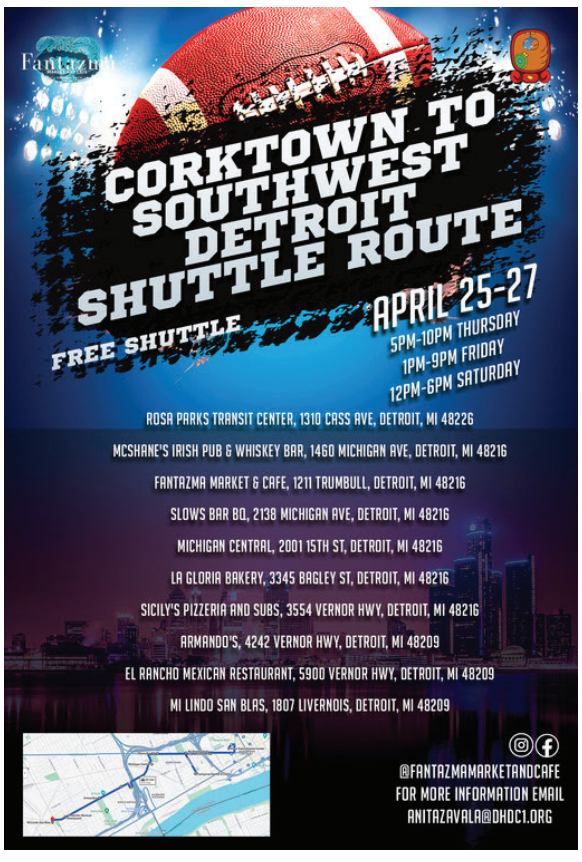
You can also find Lime, Spin, and Boaz scooters all around Downtown Detroit. The scooters and bikes will be geofenced to prohibit their use within the NFL footprint and approximately a one-block radius surrounding the footprint. The City of Detroit is working with scooter operators to set up drop-off valet stations near the NFL footprint entry points for easy pick-up and drop-off of scooters to get around.

Parking

Visitors to the NFL Draft are strongly encouraged to plan ahead and to pre-arrange parking if they plan to drive downtown. Many off-street lots and garages have already been booked and street parking will be limited or restricted throughout the downtown area. Parking violations will be strictly enforced, and vehicles may be towed for public safety purposes if parked in a restricted area. Visitors planning to park downtown are encouraged to arrive by 10am to avoid issues with traffic, congestion, and accessibility to parking. You can find available off-street parking options on the Park Detroit app or on Park Whiz.

ADA & Mobility Services

Visitors requiring mobility assistance during the event can reach out for information to the NFL Mobility Assistance Program through NFLDraftMobility@gmail.com or by calling 888-745-1455 beginning Monday, April 15th. There will also be mobility assistance services available at all fan booths during the event and the footprint is accessible to all. You can and are recommended bring your own mobility devices through the entry points. Wheelchairs are available in the venue on a first come first serve basis. Eligible Detroit residents can also take advantage of the DDOT Paratransit services by reaching out to (313) 774-5555. There will be designated ADA drop-off point close to the Jefferson / Randolph entrance in front of the Renaissance Center.


Fantazma
CORKTOWN TO SOUTHWEST DETROIT SHUTTLE ROUTE
FREE SHUTTLE
APRIL 25-27
5PM-10PM THURSDAY
1PM-9PM FRIDAY
12PM-6PM SATURDAY
ROSA PARKS TRANSIT CENTER, 1310 CASS AVE, DETROIT, MI 48226
MCSHANE'S IRISH PUB & WHISKEY BAR, 1460 MICHIGAN AVE, DETROIT, MI 48216
FANTAZMA MARKET & CAFE, 1211 TRUMBULL, DETROIT, MI 48216
SLOWS BAR BQ, 2138 MICHIGAN AVE, DETROIT, MI 48216
MICHIGAN CENTRAL, 2001 15TH ST, DETROIT, MI 48216
LA GLORIA BAKERY, 3345 BAGLEY ST, DETROIT, MI 48216
SICILY'S PIZZERIA AND SUBS, 3554 VERNOR HWY, DETROIT, MI 48216
ARMANDO'S, 4242 VERNOR HWY, DETROIT, MI 48209
EL RANCHO MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 5900 VERNOR HWY, DETROIT, MI 48209
MI LINDO SAN BLAS, 1807 LIVERNOIS, DETROIT, MI 48209
@FANTAZMAMARKETANDCAFE
FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL
ANITAZAVALA@DHDC1.ORG

NFL Draft Experience

Games

40-Yard Dash- Put your skills to the test by racing down the field against your opponents and digital NFL players on a giant 40-yard-long LED wall!

Vertical Jump- Take your position at the vertical jump and find out what the differential between your reach and the flag you hit is, just like at the NFL Scouting Combine!

Hail Mary - Test your long-distance accuracy like a pro by throwing a deep pass over defenders into a drop-in net.

Attractions

Autograph Stage - Get free autographs from current NFL players and NFL Legends.

The Vince Lombardi Trophy - Fans may take their photo with the most iconic trophy in sports.

Bud Light Backyard Bar

Look Like A Pro- Step inside a uniformed body-cast mold bearing the insignia of your favorite NFL team and have a friend snap your photo.

Taste of Detroit - Selections from some of Detroit restaurants.

Invisalign NFL Draft Photo Frames - Jumbo photo frames!

Draft Stage - Visit a replica of the official NFL Draft Stage and take your spot behind the podium as a #1 Draft pick!

NFL Locker Room - Visit a replica NFL locker room as it appears on gameday.

Pepsi Team Helmets - Fans can take their picture with an oversized replica of all 32 NFL team helmets, presented by Pepsi.

Super Bowl Rings - See all 57 Super Bowl rings up close!

Corner Ballpark

Corner Ballpark will serve as the hub of all youth activities at the Draft, and will be an extension of the activities at the main Draft site at Hart Plaza and Campus Martius Park. NFL OnePass is required for access to the Corner Ballpark April 25—27 and there will be screens to watch the NFL Draft on NFL Network. Activities include:

Field Goal Challenge - Take your shot at kicking a field goal.

Gear Up and Go - Kids can try on NFL equipment.

Play Football Field - Watch and learn from USA Football coaches and NFL players about football and NFL FLAG football, as well as Heads Up tackling during various clinics, competitions, and demonstrations. On-field clinics are open to kids ages 6-14.

Draft Day in the D

Draft Day in the D is free three-day party with festivities spanning across Capitol Park, Beacon Park, Paradise Valley Beatrice Buck Park, Grand Circus Park and on a closed-off portion of Woodward Avenue between State Street and Witherell Street. Ten 20-foot video walls are spread throughout the Downtown parks showing the live feed of the event all weekend long. Check out some of the fun offerings below:

Local Shopping - Detroit's entrepreneurial spirit will be on full display within the parks, showcasing more than 45 local vendors each day.

Music, Art, and Entertainment - Detroit musicians and entertainers will be taking the stage to showcase the local talent and energy of the city. With over 60 local Detroit artists, musicians, and entertainers.

Throughout the three-day event, interactive art installations will be on display. Capitol Park will host a custom cleat sculpture designed by Ann Arbor native and College for Creative Studies alum Robin Speth as part of the DCLEATED project. The 20 unique sculptures will be auctioned off online with proceeds benefiting Detroit-based nonprofits. Rebel Nell, the Detroit-based jewelry company that incorporates repurposed materials such as fallen graffiti, will also have a designated space in Capitol Park with a collaborative art display.

Additionally, immerse yourself in the custom-made Draft Day in the D football arch created by LeMonde Studio. The arch will be in Capitol Park and six unique football benches will be placed throughout the parks, offering the perfect fan photo opportunity to capture that special draft memory.

Cigar Rolling - Visit Paradise Valley at Randolph Street and Grand River Avenue for a unique experience on Thursday! La Casa Cigar Lounge will be setting up a cigar rolling station, adding a touch of luxury to the Draft experience. Come to see expert cigar rolling in action and indulge in premium hand-rolled cigars. It's the perfect opportunity to unwind and savor the finer things in life before continuing to explore what the rest of Downtown Detroit has to offer.

Cornhole and More - Beacon Park is the place to be for competing in daily cornhole tournaments from 4 – 6 p.m. while catching all the live Draft action on two big screens. You can also delight in delicious food and drinks from local vendors, check out DTE's Energy Den and EV Garage, and soak up the excitement of the Draft festivities while relaxing away from the crowds in the heart of Downtown.

DCFC Undefeated !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS
Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by Adam J. Dewey

Detroit City FC continues their perfect start to the season with a 3-1 win over Oakland Roots SC at Keyworth Stadium on Saturday. Goals from Ben Morris, Maxi Rodriguez, and Victor Bezerra helped improve Detroit's league record to 5-0-0.

The Detroit City FC mens go on the road, to take on Pittsburgh Riverhounds, this Saturday, April 27th at 7:00 pm (DETROIT50), then travel to take on Loudoun United FC, on Saturday, May 4th at 7:00 pm (DETROIT50).

The Detroit City FC mens return to Keyworth Stadium, to host the Phoenix Rising FC, on Saturday, May 11th at 5:00 pm (CBS).

Photos below are highlights from the Detroit City FC mens and Oakland Roots SC

DCFC goalie Nate Steinwascher (1) celebrates a Ben Morris 8' goal along side the North Guard fans

DCFC midfielder Michael Bryant (12) and Oakland Roots defender Justin Rasmussen (14) battle for control of the ball

DCFC fans in the Northern Guard celebrate a 3-1 win

DCFC celebrates their fifth straight victory in the 2024 season with head coach Danny Dichio

DCFC midfielder Michael Bryant (12) and Oakland Roots defenderJustin Rasmussen (14) battle for a header

Stephen Carroll (5) controls the ball on the defensive side of the pitch

DCDC defender Brett Levis chases down a ball on an Oakland Roots attack on goal

Abdoulaye Diop (8) in pursuit of the ball

DETROIT CITY: GOAL MACHINE!

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS SPORTS

Pateando la No. 5

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

For a team that scored less than a goal a game in 2023, Detroit City's transformation into an offensive juggernaut in 2024 has been staggering. At the current rate, the Northern Guard will have to increase the supply of smoke canisters well before mid-summer. Last Saturday, the team produced its highest output of the season in a 3-1 win over the Oakland Roots.

While the team, under the guidance of the USL's reigning Manager of the Month Danny Dichio, has upped its offensive output, the Guard has also lifted its game to match. As Le Rouge cruised to victory a chant of "Move to Vegas" rose from the East Stand, mocking the departure of Oakland's NFL team and the impending move of the Oakland A's of Major League Baseball to Sin City.

Like previous visitors to Keyworth this year, the Roots attempted to intimidate DCFC with some physical play. One thing this team won't stand for is getting pushed around in their own stadium. With 5,620 supporters behind them, the players feel a little bigger, a little stronger, and a lot more intent on defending their turf. Each team committed fifteen fouls, but the visitors ended up finishing the game with 10 men after a second half red card. Gagi Margvelashvili's second half ejection came after all the goals had been scored, so there wasn't any impact on the final result. His departure simply allowed Dichio to introduce a few more substitutes and rest some starters.

Unlike the recent late game winners, DCFC put this game to rest before the hour mark. In the eighth minute, Ben Morris had the home team in the lead. He intercepted a wayward pass, drove into the penalty area, and shot between a defender's legs into the side-netting. It was the perfect start for a vastly improved player. Morris is finally showing the promise that had him among Ipswich Town's top prospects. With Elvis Amoh out for an extended period, Morris will have to keep up his improved performances.

Amoh's injury has also restored Yazeed Mathews to the starting eleven. He split Saturday's game with on loan striker Victor Bezzerra in what could have been interpreted as an audition for Amoh's job. While Mathews provided a solid presence in the front line, Bezerra took advantage of his forty-five minute stint by scoring the third goal in the fifty-first minute after being sent in on the right side by Morris' nicely measured through ball. Even though Oakland pulled a goal back a few minutes later, the red card took the steam out of any rally.

Maxi Rodriguez, relishing his new role closer to the striker, scored the second goal from the penalty spot after the lively Alex Villanueva was fouled in the area. Villanueva earned the start at left wing in place of Ali Coote. A natural left-footer, Villanueva offered a different option to the right-footed Scotsman. Villanueva's pace gave the Roots' defense fits and his crossing served up a couple of decent chances for Mathews during the first half. When Villanueva left the game in the seventieth minute, he received a warm round of applause from the home fans.

Dichio has produced a magical start: five straight league wins and advancement past the Michigan Stars in the US Open Cup. This week, the team travels to Pittsburgh to face the Riverhounds. The last time DCFC went to the Steel City, Dominic Gasso struck a terrific late goal to give the club its first ever playoff win. The Riverhounds have lost their starting goalkeeper to El Paso and their league-leading striker to Rhode Island during the offseason. They will certainly be hungry to topple DCFC though after last season's playoff game. Further out on the horizon, City will be looking forward to another big occasion in the US Open Cup. Defeating their bitter local rivals on a stoppage time goal from Maxi Rodriguez earned them an away tie at the Houston Dynamo of MLS, the current cup holders. That will be on May 7 and will be the biggest test of the season.

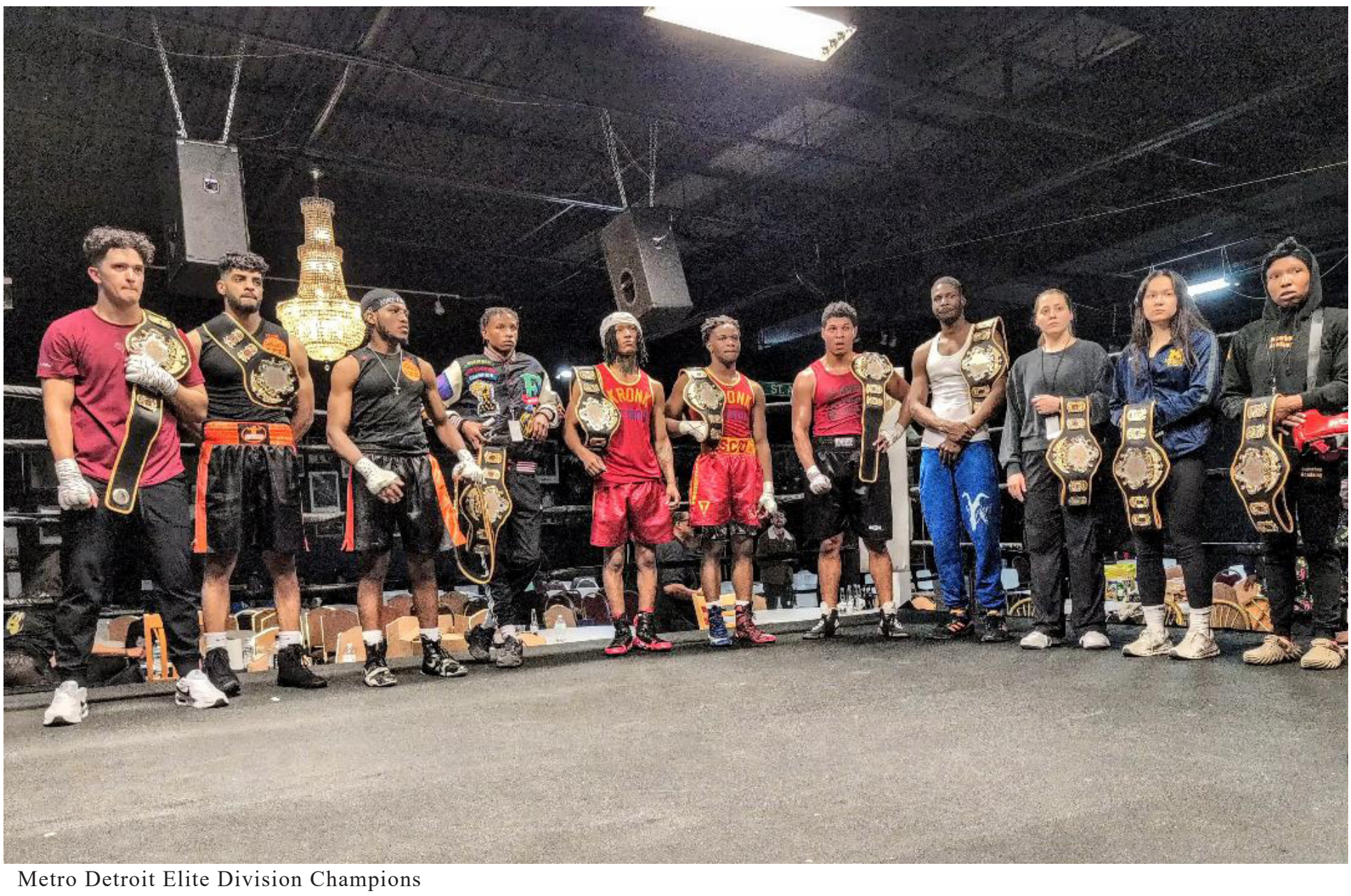
Metro Detroit Golden Gloves Champions

For the last two weekends, the Metro Detroit Golden Gloves was held at Berts Warehouse, in Eastern Market.

The elite division champions (picured below) will represent the Metroit Detroit Golden Gloves in the National Golden Gloves Tournament.

This year the National Tournament will be held, Monday, May 13th through Saturday, May 19th at Huntington Place, in Detroit, MI

Photo by Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL



Metro Detroit Elite Division Champions

EDITORIAL OPINION

"Another Big Lie is with us again"

By Raoul Lowery Contreras

"If you repeat a lie often enough, people will believe it, and you will even come to believe it yourself."

Joseph Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda, Germany, 1933-1945

What happens when we apply that statement to Donald J. Trump's 2:30-in-the-morning announcement that he had actually won reelection as President of the United States that night in November 2020 when he actually led when a small percentage of votes cast nationally had been counted.

He flatly stated he had won. Lie! It was 2:30 (Eastern time) in the morning when he told national television viewers he won. He also said "This is a fraud on the American public. This is an embarrassment to our country…We'll be going to the U.S. Supreme Court, we want all voting to stop." That, an hour after all polls in the United States had closed.

"We don't want them to find any ballots at 4 o'clock in the morning and add them to the list." Lie!

"We were getting ready to win this election. Frankly, we did win this election." Lie!

Everything he said that night was a lie, everything. 60 court cases later including up to and including the U.S. Supreme Court, he and his gofers had failed to move a single judge, state or federal. Only one court had decided a case in favor of Trump, that in Pennsylvania but it was not on bogus votes. It was on mail-in ballots that didn't have a required date written on the envelope. A handful of these mail-in votes were involved.

Fast forward to today, Trump is still with us. He started his attempt at reelection in 2024 with a totally embarrassing "victory" in a small vast majority white state of Iowa. Embarrassing? Yes. He carried -- by 51% -- the stupid Iowa Caucuses against the equally stupid governor of Florida and former South Carolina governor Nikki Haley who went on to embarrass Trump more in primaries after she "suspended" her presidential campaign. She consistently has received up to a quarter of Republican votes despite Trump claiming victory.

Meanwhile, the very slow wheels of justice have risen from a deep sleep and entered a New York city courtroom, a jury has been picked and sworn in and sharp-fanged prosecutors have looked the jurors-in-the-eye and told them Trump is guilty of 34 separate counts of falsifying business papers in an effort to violate political campaign crimes of denying voters information that Trump paid "hush-up" money to a former "adult" -- pornography actress -- he feared would tell the world she had sex with married Donald Trump around the time his son Baron was born to his present wife.

Trump's defense: business papers are just papers. It isn't a crime to try to point out criminal vote counts and criminal voting. That is just "democracy."

But someone other than ambulance-chasing lawyers think otherwise. Recent polling shows that 50% of surveyed Americans tell pollsters that they feel Trump is being treated fairly; 43% think Trump is being treated unfairly.

Considering that Trump has been lying about winning the 2020 election since before the majority of votes were counted and the falling into line by his supporters believing his lies, as noted, the fact 43% of Americans might even consider believing him without a scintilla of evidence proven in 60 different courts -- perhaps we should reach back to a man who didn't lie much. Or at least we can hope that 12 New York jurors of different races, employments and philosophies of life listen to the evidence and sort through the lies and do right.

As a real Republican and, perhaps, our greatest President Abraham Lincoln once said: "You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time." In this case, a single American jury of 12.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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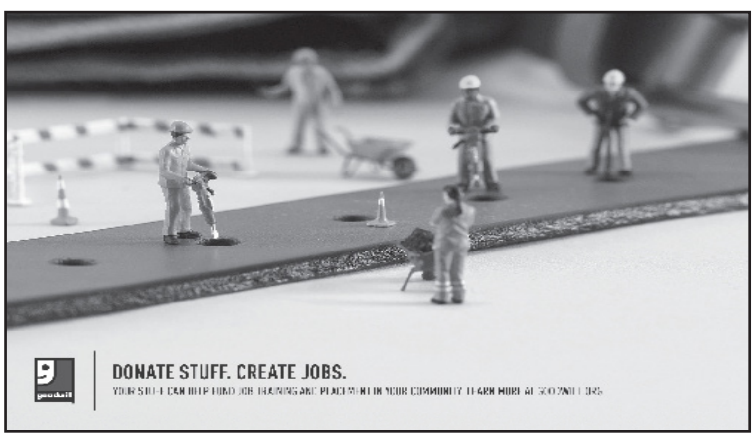

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Confused by Nutrition Labels? You're Not Alone

(StatePoint) Shopping for groceries can be like navigating a maze: so many choices in every aisle, food packages covered in marketing claims and little direction on what is truly healthy and what isn't. People want to make healthy choices for themselves and their families, but how can they when the information available to them can be so overwhelming?

For years, the Nutrition Facts label on the back of food packages has provided important nutrition information, such as the amount of calories, fat, sodium, sugar, protein and vitamins and minerals. But all the numbers can be confusing, and they're not readily visible. Given America's high rates of diet-related disease and illness, advocates say that more must be done to make sure consumers have the information they need to make healthy choices.

That's why the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which sets standards for nutrition labeling, is developing a new labeling system that would appear on the front of food and beverage products, offering clear and concise information to help people quickly and easily identify healthier foods. Research from other countries shows that front-of-pack labeling helps consumers make healthier purchases and even gets manufacturers to make healthier products.

What could a front-of-pack label look like? More than 40 countries already require it. Some countries use stoplight colors like red, yellow and green, or a grading system like a report card — A, B, C, D, E — to indicate how healthy a product is. Other countries use a warning system that indicates whether products include high amounts of added sugars, saturated fat or sodium. Approaches like these make it easy for consumers to understand with a quick glance what's healthy and what's not.

The success of front-of-pack labeling in other countries suggests it will help people in the United States make healthier choices that can improve well-being and reduce high rates of diet-related diseases, including some forms of heart disease and cancer. In fact, the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine) recommended such a system more than 10 years ago, and national polls show most Americans support it.

The FDA plans to release a proposal for a front-of-pack food labeling system in the United States that can get everyone out of the food shopping maze. To stay informed and learn more, visit yourethecure.org/FOP.

"Clear, concise front-of-pack nutrition labeling is the answer. After all, grocery shopping shouldn't require a degree in nutrition," says Nancy Brown, CEO of the American Heart Association.

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